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NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE

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NEWS

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SURGEON GENERAL APPOINTS NEW DIRECTOR

The Surgeon General of the Public Health Service has announced the appointment of Dr. Martin M. Cummings as Director of the National Library of Medicine. His appointment will be effective on January 1, 1964.

Dr. Cummings will come to the Library from the National Institutes of Health, where he has been Associate Director for Research Grants since May 1963 and Chief of the Office of International Research since March 1961. He came to NIH from the University of Oklahoma Medical School, where he had been Chairman and Professor of Microbiology since 1959. He also conducted research in epidemiology, microbiology, and clinical medicine there, and served as a consultant to the Veterans Administration.

In his career in the Public Health Service Dr. Cummings has also been assigned to the State Serum Institute in Copenhagen for research and training activities (1946-47), and as Director of the Tuberculosis Evaluation Laboratory in the Communicable Disease Center in Atlanta (1947-49). From 1949 to 1959 he served the Veterans Administration as Chief of its Tuberculosis Research Laboratory in Atlanta and as Director of Research Services in the VA Department of Medicine and Surgery in Washington. He is the author of many articles on sarcoidosis, tuberculosis, and other infectious diseases.

In announcing the appointment Dr. Terry said: "I feel that Dr. Cummings' experience as a medical school professor, as well as his recent responsibilities in the international field and in the use of biomedical research grants to speed the improvement of the nation's health, will bring to the National Library of Medicine unique skills to maintain the Library's traditions as a national resource and at the same time provide the farsighted management of the expanded programming so necessary today in medical communications."

IN MEMORIAM

The National Library of Medicine is observing the period of mourning for the late John F. Kennedy by displaying his portrait, appropriately adorned with a black rosette, in the entrance lobby. Condolences from the staff were sent to the White House through the Surgeon General of the Public Health Service.

The late President Kennedy had a particular interest in the National Library of Medicine. In 1956, as Senator from Massachusetts, he co-sponsored with Senator Lister Hill of Alabama the bill establishing the National Library of Medicine. In introducing the bill Mr. Kennedy said, "Medical research leaders have expressed concern over the fact that in many instances the absence of satisfactory bibliographic materials has resulted in wasteful duplication of efforts by medical researchers. Certainly there is enough to be done in the important fields of medical research without the repetition of experiments successfully undertaken. A National Library of Medicine is essential to the efficiency and coordination of effort necessary in medical research."

A number of foreign medical librarians who were present when President Kennedy addressed the members of the Second International Congress on Medical Librarianship last June have written to express their condolence to all citizens of the United States.

MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION PUBLICATIONS

Part two of the October 1963 issue of the Bulletin of the Medical Library Association is a ten-year cumulative index to the BMLA, covering volumes 41-50, 1953-1962. Copies may be purchased at $2 each from the Executive Secretary of MLA at 919 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60611. The index to volumes 1-40, 1911-1952, is available at $3.50.

The Proceedings of the Second International Congress on Medical Librarianship, held in Washington in June 1963, will be printed as the January 1964 issue of the BMLA. Single copies may be purchased from the Association at $5.

OPEN HOUSE

Members of the American Society of Hematology visited the National Library of Medicine on Sunday afternoon, December 8. More than 200 people viewed a special exhibit on the history of hematology, prepared with the cooperation of Dr. William Dameshek of Boston. During the afternoon they also saw the film on the history and programs of the Library and were guided through the various work areas in the building.

2000 YEARS OF MENTAL ILLNESS

The mental patient and man's efforts to understand and treat his afflictions is the subject of an historical exhibit currently on display in the lobby of the National Library of Medicine.

By means of case reports and treatises the history of psychotherapy is traced from the times of Hippocrates and Galen to the mid-nineteenth century, with special emphasis on the pioneer work of Johann Wier (1563).

An added feature of the exhibit is a survey of early institutional care of the mentally ill in Great Britain and the United States, shown by prints, line drawings, reports, and a manuscript letter from an inmate of York Asylum, dated April 1, 1831.

The exhibit will be on display through January 1964.

BOARD OF REGENTS

The nomination of Dr. William N. Hubbard, Jr., Dean of the University of Michigan Medical School, to be a member of the Board of Regents of the National Library of Medicine was confirmed by the Senate on November 1, 1963. The Board now has its full complement of seventeen members.

TRANSLATIONS

The Science Translation Program of the National Library of Medicine announces that the following publications have been recently translated and distributed under the P.L. 480 Foreign Currency Program:

Israel

Works of the Institute of Higher Nervous Activity. Moscow.
Physiological Series, v. 6, 1961
Pathophysiological Series, v. 9, 1961

Works of the Scientific Research Institute of Biology and the Faculty of Biology. Kharkov.
Physiology and Biochemistry of Aging, v. 29, 1960

Rozenfel'd, I.I. Planning and Allocation of Medical Personnel in Public Health Services, Moscow, 1961

Poland

Acta Biochemica Polonica, v. 10, nos. 1-3, 1963

Archivum Immunologiae et Therapiae Experimentalis, v. 11, nos. 1-3, 1963

Polish Medical Journal, v. 2, nos. 1-3, 1963

Yugoslavia

Acta Medica Iugoslavia, v. 16, no. 1, 1962

Medical Journal, v. 84, nos. 1-9, 1962

INTERLIBRARY LOAN REQUEST FORMS

The National Library of Medicine has completed a review of its "Request for Interlibrary Loan" forms (PHS-2883), including the degree of its acceptance or non-acceptance by other libraries and the adequacy of the form to meet the requirements of NLM and other libraries in terms of format, space, number of copies, etc. The conclusion was reached that the standard ALA "Interlibrary Loan Request" form fulfills these requirements better than the NLM form. The National Library of Medicine is therefore abandoning its own form in favor of the ALA form.

The following new practices will be followed by borrowing libraries:

1. After March 1, 1964, requests for loans from the National Library of Medicine should be submitted on the standard ALA Interlibrary Loan form, to be procured by individual libraries.

2. During the transition period, while borrowing libraries are acquiring their own stocks of the ALA form, the National Library of Medicine will continue to supply the NLM form (PHS-2883). This practice will be discontinued on March 1, 1964.

3. After that date the National Library of Medicine will discontinue the furnishing of ILL forms, except in individual cases of hardship, to be determined by NLM, when it will supply a limited number of preprinted ALA forms. As a general rule, not more than 25 sets of the form will be given to a library at one time.

4. Librarians are encouraged to commence using the ALA form at the earliest convenient date and to destroy all stocks of the several loan and photoduplication forms which have been distributed by the National Library of Medicine over a period of years, including AML-48, PHS-2717, and PHS-2883.

SPECIAL NOTICE

Confirming the tentative decision announced in the September issue of the NLM News, the first issues of the Index Medicus to be prepared by MEDLARS will be printed by machine printer instead of by the GRACE high-quality printer system. This is a temporary arrangement made necessary by the delay in delivery of GRACE to the Library. The entire staff of the Library asks the indulgence of Index Medicus users during this interim period.

Use of funds for printing this publication approved by the Director of the Bureau of the Budget, January 18, 1963

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